

TRANSIT TODAY

Salus Bill, Strengthening City's Position, to Be Reported by Committee

VARE HAS PROMISED AID

By a Staff Correspondent
HARRISBURG, April 17. The first step toward breaking the tie-up of construction of the new and elevated lines that were authorized by the voters in Philadelphia is expected to be taken today.

The Salus bill, which would compel privately owned street railways to connect with the high-speed system, provide a transfer arrangement and take a pro-rata share of the revenues, will be reported out of the Judiciary General Committee of the Senate, with a few amendments, according to members of that committee.

The transit situation in Philadelphia has been made a football for factional politics, the conference held yesterday by Mayor Smith and Senators Vare and McNichol started the move to end this and get action at once.

"I will use all the power I have to rush the transit bills through the Legislature," Senator Vare said today. Senator McNichol said he had "talked" with the Mayor, but would not say whether he had pledged his support to the bills.

The Penrose legislative leaders are inclined to regard the bills as measures to help strengthen the Vare forces in Philadelphia in preparation for the municipal election next fall, and one Penrose leader, it was stated on good authority, has told the Mayor that for this reason he cannot actively work for their passage.

The public Service Commission, which Saturday voted to do nothing toward granting the certificates of public convenience that are necessary before more contracts can be awarded until the transit bills now in the Legislature have been discussed, today made it plain that they had only the Salus bill in mind.

The Salus bill already has passed the House, and if the Senate rushes it through without delay, it should be in the hands of the Governor for his approval next week.

One member of the commission is authorized for the statement that only the Salus bill is in the minds of the commission. He was asked if the Hecht amendment to the State Constitution, which must pass not only this but the next Legislature, and then be voted on at the polls, thus delaying the granting of the certificates, had been included in the legislation referred to by the commission.

"The only bill we had in mind was the Salus bill," he said. "That is the only measure that we consider affects the granting of the certificates, and it is mentioned in the resolution we adopted."

"The Hecht amendment would, I believe, enable the city to purchase the existing lines, and does not concern the operation of them in an essential way for some time. It will not stand in the road when it comes to granting the certificates."

The commission has been evenly divided on the question of granting the certificates ever since the application for them was first made by the city.

A vacancy exists on the City, but so far Governor Brumbaugh has declined to take any action or make an appointment that would break the tie vote and give to the city at once its high-speed system.

HOPE FOR "BONE DRY" ACT IN PENNSYLVANIA

Anti-Liquor Forces Launch Move to Force State Prohibition During War

By a Staff Correspondent
HARRISBURG, April 17.

The "dry" forces in the State today launched the movement for a "bone-dry" prohibition in Pennsylvania during the war with Germany.

Following a conference held by the heads of the various local option organizations and the prohibition leaders, Insurance Commissioner J. Denny O'Neil, chairman of the Local Option Committee of Pennsylvania, issued the following statement, urging immediate action on the prohibition measure:

"The war has made it imperative that immediate action be taken on the present prohibition act introduced in the present Legislature by Representative Lex N. Mitchell, of Jefferson County, Pennsylvania has taken the lead in patriotism and should also be in the forefront of this movement."

"Such a strong sentiment in favor of the enforcement of the Mitchell bill for the duration of the war has developed that an amendment ought to be made so that the State could be legislated into the 'dry' column for the period of the war, thus conserving its resources and effecting an economy that would be of vital consequence at this time. This act would reduce the high cost of living for many persons in Pennsylvania and for many others would prevent it from going still higher."

"Among members of the Legislature and through the State a strong sentiment has developed in favor of the enactment of the Mitchell statutory prohibition bill as a war measure. Such a law would be in line with President Wilson's patriotic appeal to American citizens to do everything within their power toward conserving property and human energy. In war time, the nation needs more virile constitutions who can undergo the attendant hardships."

Representative Mitchell's bill was introduced in the Legislature at the instance of the Anti-Saloon League of Pennsylvania. He has been in telephone communication today with the Philadelphia headquarters of the league in order to enlist their active support for the measure. He will make an effort to have Chairman Wagner, of the House Law and Order Committee, report the bill favorably with an amendment which will make it a war measure.

The entire liquor lobby of the State swayed down upon Harrisburg last night and today, to bitterly fight the proposal to enact a "bone-dry" prohibition law.

BOARD NAMED TO PROBE PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS

Bill by Representative Glass Also Gives Right to Fix Charges

By a Staff Correspondent
HARRISBURG, April 17.

A preparedness measure was adopted by the Legislature last night. Representative Leopold C. Glass, a Vare member from Philadelphia, offered a resolution creating a board of nine members to investigate the food conditions in Pennsylvania, and to fix prices and direct the sale of foodstuffs. It was adopted at once.

Any grocers or dealers or others who produce or handle foodstuffs and refuse to sell at the prices fixed by the commission, are liable to a heavy fine. The commission is directed to hold public hearings and conduct thorough investigation in any way it sees fit.

6000 WOMEN PLEDGED TO ECONOMY IN FOOD

Emergency Aid of State Promises Only Three Meals a Day During War

Society women will start tonight to practice in earnest the plea of President Wilson for strict economy at all places and at all times.

Instead of the usual five to eight courses served at dinners of members of the executive committee of the Emergency Aid there will be but three courses. That is the limit and it is going to be no more until the war is over.

This drastic action was decided on at a meeting of the executive committee this morning when they pledged themselves and their entire organization to the three-course plan. It will affect the 6000 members of the Emergency Aid scattered through the State of Pennsylvania.

"It is not an economy measure for our own interests," exclaimed Mrs. Barclay Warburton, "but to conserve the food supply of the nation."

"We want people to conserve the nation's food supply," she said, "and we do not want the people to get an idea that it is society people who are doing this. Everybody should take part in it, irrespective of wealth, poverty or social position. The President has asked us to aid, and we are willing and stand ready to do it at once. We are not mentioning any particular variety of food which we should restrict. It is the idea of saving food which we want to impress."

"A meal at which soup is served will not have a salad or a dessert. Or a meal with salad will omit either the soup or the dessert. In other words there are to be but three courses on the tables of the Philadelphia families which are leading the movement of conserving the food supply."

"Since President Wilson has made his appeal to the housewife and asked her to help fight the war by stopping waste and practicing economy," said Mrs. Thomas Robins in speaking of the newly adopted resolution, "we want to help. We feel that it is only right that we start this movement and teach people to be more economical so there will be plenty of food for all."

Mrs. J. Willis Martin was in favor of the resolution and emphasized the fact that she thought it a good example to set to women of the nation—three meals a day, none of which had more than three courses. The resolution passed this morning is:

In response to the appeal made by the President of the United States for economy in the household, we pledge ourselves during the period of the war to a three-course dinner, consisting of food by eliminating waste, and we pledge ourselves to a limit of not more than three courses to any one meal.

The women at the meeting included Mrs. A. J. Cassatt, Mrs. J. Willis Martin, Mrs. Edward T. Stotesbury, Mrs. John C. Groome, Mrs. Edward Browning, Mrs. George Q. Horwitz, Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, Mrs. Thomas Robins, Mrs. Edward K. Bond, Mrs. Norman Jackson, Mrs. George Wharton Pepper, Mrs. Bayard Henry, Mrs. E. Burd Grubb, Mrs. John Markoe, Mrs. Robert von Moschizker, Mrs. Fred Morgan, Mrs. William Ellis Scull, Mrs. Solomon Griscom, Mrs. H. Prentiss Nichols, Mrs. Howard Parnass, Miss Letitia McKim, Miss Nina Lee and Mrs. Barclay Warburton.

The Emergency Aid women have pledged themselves also to co-operate with Mrs. Woodrow Wilson in her appeal for saving in every way possible.

They have sent her the following telegram: "The White House, Washington, D. C. "At a meeting of the executive committee of the Emergency Aid of Pennsylvania a motion was passed heartily indorsing your recommendation of a movement for economy in the household and pledging its co-operation for the furtherance to that end."

Wills Admitted to Probate
Wills probated today were those of Joseph Kadder, 7031 Boyer street, Mount Airy, who disposed of property valued at \$17,000; estate of deceased Elizabeth Dushik, 427 Chestnut street, \$12,940; James R. Alexander, 202 Erie avenue, \$6,100; Charles J. ... 4215 Cedar avenue, \$4,100; and Mary ...

PENROSE MEN QUIT WAR FUND FIGHT

Introduce 'Compromise' Bill for \$2,000,000 Appropriation

By a Staff Correspondent
HARRISBURG, April 17.

The Penrose leaders in the Legislature stopped tying up the war emergency funds for the defense of the State today and introduced in the Legislature new bills providing the initial appropriations and creating a "compromise" war board to direct the expenditure of the funds.

The bill provides for an initial appropriation of \$2,000,000. The new board as proposed would be known as the Commission for the Defense of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It would be composed of Governor Brumbaugh, Lieutenant Governor McClain, the members of the State Military Board, which consist of Adjutant General Stewart, Auditor General and State Treasurer, Edward T. Stotesbury and W. W. Atterbury, of Philadelphia, and Andrew W. Mellon, of Pittsburgh.

Governor Brumbaugh is designated as chairman. Stotesbury, Atterbury and Mellon represent the Public Safety Committee of Pennsylvania.

The new bill gives the war board complete power to take any action for the defense of the State and to co-operate with the Federal Government in the war with Germany. The measure is the result of a compromise agreed upon by the leaders of the Penrose and Brumbaugh factions at a joint meeting of the Appropriations Committees of the Senate and House.

Senator William C. Spraul, of Delaware, introduced the bill in the Senate. Representative James P. Woodward, of Allegheny, sponsored it in the House.

The vote in the Senate Appropriations Committee on reporting the "compromise" bill was twenty-five to sixteen, following a stormy session that lasted two hours. Senators Vare, Salus and Burke led the fight against it. Senators McNichol and Spraul led the fight in favor of reporting it.

The measure passed first reading in the Senate this afternoon. Senator Buckman, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, reporting it as soon as the body assembled. The debate will take place in the Senate tomorrow, when the bill will be on the second reading calendar.

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